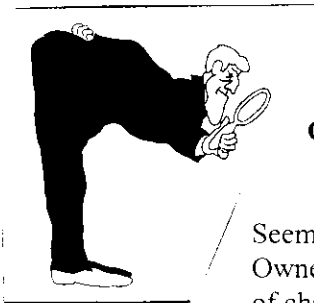


# The House Special

Volume 18, Number 11

November 1998

THE HOUSE SPECIAL IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION



## Changes in the Association

Seems like the Skyline House Unit Owners' Association is in the middle of change this year. We have had our ups and downs with Board members,

Committee Chairpersons, Committee members, and even Managers and Assistant Managers. The Association is doing well and will continue to do well as long as we, the Association Members, continue to volunteer and keep interested in what is going on in our home here at Skyline House.

## From the Unit Owners' Association President

A. Kevin Fahey

Due to unanticipated personal conflicts I have determined that I can no longer serve as President or as a Board Member of the Board of Directors.

Effective October 9, 1998 I resign my position as a member of the Board of Directors and as President of the Board.

I thank you and the Board Members for your support and fine work while I was serving as President.

## From the President: Charles K. Roberts

Neighbors, if you've picked up your mail or visited the front desk in the past week you know by now that our President, Kevin Fahey has resigned from the Board of Directors due to unexpected personal considerations effective October 9, 1998. I know Kevin made this decision only after careful consideration of demands on his time in his professional life as a public defender and those created by the increasing pace of activity in our Association.

Kevin, on behalf of the Association let me express our gratitude for your service as a Board member, Treasurer, Vice President and President. Good humor, common sense and good judgment have been the hallmarks of your leadership throughout your tenure. I know the entire Association joins me in wishing you success in all your endeavors, including, we hope, further service to Skyline House in the future.

The Board of Directors will meet in the near future to appoint a unit owner (Mr. David Tilson is the new Board appointed member) to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Fahey's resignation until the Annual Meeting in March, at which time the Association will elect a candidate to fill the remaining un-expired portion of his term.

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I look forward to serving our community as President through the Annual Meeting next March and welcome comments and suggestions from all unit owners and residents on matters of common concern.

Here's how you can contact me:

Apartment 914E, telephone 998-6080. Please don't call after 10:00 p.m. unless it's an emergency. If you get my answering machine, please leave a phone number and the time and date of your call.

Cellular phone 201-3633. It's on most of the time.

Voice mail: (202) 310-2818. It's on all the time.

E-mail: charleyroberts@juno.com (without attachments) or

Charley\_Roberts@prodigy.com (with attachments, if you like).

If you see me, grab me. And I do check my box at the front desk...at least once every week.

The audience at the end of our regular Board meetings is beginning to resemble the crowd at Jack Kent Cook Stadium in the third quarter. Communicating to the Board should not require Iron Man endurance. As an experiment, I will open up the microphone at 7:00 p.m. sharp (one half hour before the start of the regular meeting) and recognize residents who wish to address briefly the Board members who are able to be present. For now, your comments will not be made part of the minutes, but I will take notes, and your remarks will be taped so we can take any action which may be necessary or refer the matter to management or the proper committee.

We're in a season of change. A very thorough search process has ended with the hire of a new Deputy General Manager, Mr. Randy Lyon. You're going to like this man and the work he does.

We say farewell in October to Schubert Magno as he takes a promotion outside Skyline House. We're grateful for his skillful service so cheerfully rendered. Schubert, thank you and best wishes to you in your new position. (I'm happy to report that Mary Ann Magno will remain on our staff at the front desk.)

As a candidate for a position on the Board in 1997 I expressed the hope that we could retain our In-Unit maintenance program. I am pleased to report the Ad Hoc Committee on In-Unit Maintenance has recommended making this a permanent program and that the Board of Directors has adopted that recommendation. Many thanks to Chairman Wayne Krumwiede, Ed Bisgyer, Bob Lowry, Dave Mayrose, Bill Miller, Judith York and Rick Riether for their fine work on this study.

Work in the garage is expected to resume by October 25 following approval of change orders to the existing garage repair contract. The first phase involves beam repairs in the northwest quadrant of the garage above the A level. The Ad Hoc Committee on Garage Repairs Chairman Bob Lowry, Ken Grant, Bill Miller, Ed Bisgyer, Ross MacAskill and Cecil Williams and General Manager Al Smith and consultant Doug White worked very hard to reach this agreement with SPS / VSL, and they all deserve our thanks for getting this essential work under way.



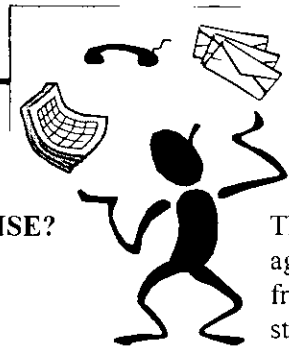
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## WHAT IS ALL THAT NOISE?

Al Smith

On Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, the repairs to the northwest quadrant "A" level beams began. To determine what repairs must be done to the beams, those beams must be "opened up" to expose the post-tension cables that are embedded inside the concrete.

Once the cables are exposed, the engineer can test them. The testing will determine how many have failed and then we will know how many need to be replaced.

Once these beams are repaired, the parking spaces in the northwest quadrant can be used. Those that have been displaced from their garage parking spaces will be able to move back and "guest" parking will be available for your guests through the remainder of the winter holiday season.

Please remember; be considerate of your neighbors. Please cooperate with the parking rules. Keep our fire lanes open for emergency vehicles, share the loading dock areas by honoring the 30 minute parking allowance and do not park in the "guest" parking spaces without specific authorization from the management office.

## WHO TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS?

If the electrical service provided by Virginia Power to our community suddenly fails, we cannot fix it. However, we do have emergency generators, one for each building. The generators turn on automatically to provide power to one passenger elevator in each building and corridor and stairway lighting. The generators also power our fire alarm and suppression systems.

At the first indication of a power failure, the front desk pages the building engineer. Then a call is made to Virginia Power to ensure they are responding to the outage. The front desk staff will be very busy for quite some time coordinating communications between our site-staff and emergency repair workers.

The best way to get information during a power outage is to call directly to Virginia Power first. The front desk will be very busy, especially in the early stages of a power outage.

Remember only one passenger elevator per building. Please expect a wait if you are using the elevator during an outage. And, please allow the elevator to operate automatically. Everyone will get their ride during an outage if everyone will share the elevator.

## PHYSICAL PLANT & OPERATIONS (PPOC)

Bob Lowry - Co-Chair  
Ken Grant - Co-Chair  
Ross MacAskill - Co-Chair

"The Association will have a new Grounds Maintenance Contract effective January 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999. It will cover the following:

- Spring Clean-up
- Irrigation/Sprinkler System
- Turf and Lawn Care
- Ground Cover, Shrubs and Trees

For those interested in the details of the contract, a copy is available in the Management office."

## Volunteers Wanted for the Landscaping Advisory Group

The Board of Directors needs four well-qualified volunteers to consult with Management on landscaping improvements, including plants and flower arrangements (not maintenance.)

The "Group" will meet with Management on an "as needed" basis, probably no more frequently than once each month. Applicants should have substantial horticultural experience and/or training with a good eye for color and plant/flower arrangements.

Please send your applications to Al Smith, Manager. The selection will be made jointly by selected Board members and Management. Please send written interest and qualifications to the Manager by November 20, 1998.

At the PPOC meeting on October 7, 1998 several actions took place that should be of interest to all unit owners:

(1) At the suggestion of PPOC, on Sept 23, 1998, the Board approved the creation of an ad-hoc Garage Repair Committee to negotiate, on behalf of the Board, with the garage repair contractor for the repair of garage beams. After numerous meetings, a change under the existing garage repair contract was finally agreed upon, with work to start, we hope, during the week of October 26.

(2) At its 9/23/98 meeting, the Board approved the creation and proposed membership of a Garage Plaza Working Group. Bob Lowry has offered to Chair the organizational meeting. The Group will develop, for Board approval, plans to eliminate water damage from the plaza over the East garage which is currently covered by planters from which water seeps into the first course of facade brickwork. The Plaza area also suffers from spalling concrete. The ad-hoc committee will also suggest ways to utilize the space; letters received from residents with suggestions for development of the space will be taken into account.

(3) Landscaping decisions, which in the past was solely handled by Management, will now be considered in two parts.

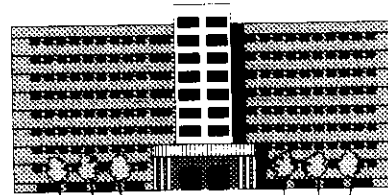
The first part will be the maintenance of the existing planting with scope of work being prepared by Management. The second part will be changes in landscape planting, etc. This will now be "scooped out" by Management with the advice of a Landscape Advisory Group. This group to be comprised of three or four volunteers experienced in horticultural matters. The contracting of both parts will come under the usual review of PPOC and FMC.

(4) Each Tuesday, after the PPOC monthly meeting, an inspection is made of some particular part of our property. Notice of these inspections are posted on the bulletin board and Channel 12. Everybody is welcome.

### **GARAGE PLAZA WORKING GROUP**

There is major deterioration to the deck surface of the garage plaza and, in some parts, walking is a hazard.

Water seepage from the planters is now known to be the principal cause of the problems which have necessitated major repairs to the garage decks and supporting beams. Against the background, the Garage Plaza Working Group held its first meeting. It reviewed interest and concerns expressed, following an article in the August House Special, about the future utilization of the area. Sub-groups will now gather information as to the feasibility either of maintaining the garage plaza as nearly as possible in its original state or of providing for other uses. If you have interest in working with this group or have suggestions for their consideration please leave a message at the Front Desk for Ken Grant, 1408-W.



**RECREATION COMMITTEE  
(RC)**



Tony DiSalvo, Chair

The Committee did not meet in October 1998.

Our thanks go to Carroll Thompson who hosted the October 1998 TGIF in my absence. Thanks Carroll.

A flea market is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 1998. The hours will be from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the East Party Room. There will be no charge to reserve a table. Selling will be RESTRICTED to Skyline House residents. You can always bring your friends and houseguest. Complete details on how to reserve a table appears elsewhere in the Newsletter.

If you are a new resident and have not attended the monthly TGIF, make this your first and meet your neighbors. YOU are more than welcome and to make it easier, you are requested NOT to bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres, just your own liquid refreshment.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 12, 7:00 p.m. for the Annual Holiday party that will be held in the West Party Room.

The next Committee meeting will be Wednesday, November 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the West Card Room.

TGIF is scheduled for Friday, November 6, 1998 in the East Party Room at 6:30 p.m.

**GOOD NEIGHBORS COMMITTEE  
(GNC)**

Joan Collins

Toska Prather - Co-Chairs

Good Neighbors are available to assist all residents who are in need of temporary help due to illness or emergency. Call the Good Neighbors (GN) of the month if a need arises. Check the bulletin Boards for the current GN of the month. The Good Neighbors Group is always looking for additional members.

Call one of the Co-Chairs (Joan Collins at 998-0788 or Toska Prather at 379-7849) if you wish to join the Good Neighbors.

No one can help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

GN's are available to assist residents in a lot of different ways, so give them a call.

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### **COVENANTS COMMITTEE (CC)**

David Kafka, Chair

Recently there have been incidents of items being thrown off of unit balconies in our condominium.

This practice is against the law in Fairfax County and a violation of our condominium rules.

When you witness things being thrown off balconies please call the police and make a complaint. Then call the Skyline House Unit Owners' Association and register a written complaint at the reception desk.

Throwing items off of balconies is a Felony.



### **LIBRARY UPDATE**

The library offers a wide assortment of books including mystery and suspense, romance, adventure, history, biography, classics and more.

Please come and see what your dedicated Skyline House Unit Owner supporters have accomplished. Borrow a book or just share a social evening with your friends in the library on the top floor of the East building every Monday night from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

### **FLEA MARKET THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19 EAST PARTY ROOM**

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She may just have your lost photographs.



## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (FMC)

Rick Riether, Chair

The FMC meets on the third Tuesday of every month. In November, the Committee is meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. All residents are welcome to visit, attend and become members of the FMC. Your Association needs your expertise on the FMC as well as on other committees. Come check out the FMC and see how your money is being spent.

## SECURITY, FIRE & SAFETY COMMITTEE (SFSC)

Ann Mehrten - Chair

The SFSC Committee meets every other month in the West Card room at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and find out what is going on at Skyline House.

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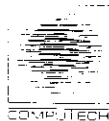
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Editor:

Robert Busby

Board of Directors:

Send information for the newsletter to the Skyline  
House Management Office

Voice (703) 578-4855

Fax (703) 998-5827

Published Monthly



The House Special welcomes information from its readers. Please limit your information to 250 words and include your name and unit number. The Association reserves the right to refuse incorrect or improper statements.

If you submit your information to the editor on a computer disk with a camera-ready paper copy attached, it makes it so much easier to get the information in the newsletter the way you want it.

An advertising rate card, showing the cost and sizes, is available from the Management Office. The Unit Owners Association does the best it can to get your information in the newsletter the way you want it. At times your information may be edited, enhanced or resized due to the amount of space and time available.

The appearance of advertisements in the House Special does not constitute endorsement by the Association.

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David Tilson  
Wayne Krumwiede  
Virginia Poindexter  
Barbara Michelman  
Robert Busby  
David Mayrose

Copies of the newsletter are available at the front desk for those who request a copy. The Association is unable to mail newsletters at the present time.

The editor is still looking for a volunteer to become the new editor of the House Special. Anyone who would like to take over this task should contact the President of the Board.



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